State Capitol | Lansing, Michigan 48913 PH (517) 373.1635 | FAX (517) 373.3300 www.senate.michigan.gov/gop/senator/vanwoerkom/

For Immediate Release March 13, 2006

Sen. Van Woerkom reading to students in New Era

Contact: Jennie Gavin

517-373-1635

Who: State Sen. Gerald Van Woerkom, R-Norton Shores.

What: Sen. Van Woerkom will be reading to students at New Era Christian

Elementary School as part of Reading Month.

When: Friday, March 17

11:20 to 11:45 a.m.

Where: New Era Christian Elementary

1901 Oak Ave.

New Era.

Briefing: In honor of Reading Month, Sen. Van Woerkom will be reading to

elementary schools across the 34th Senate District throughout March.

Every year, school children throughout Michigan celebrate "March is Reading Month." The purpose is to highlight reading as a fun activity that

children and parents can do together, while promoting literacy.

According to the U.S. Department of Education, approximately 40 percent of students across the nation cannot read at a basic level. Learning to read and

the promotion of reading needs to start at an early age and continue

throughout life.

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